The background features a traditional Japanese woodblock print style illustration of a large, curling blue wave with white foam. A yellow boat is visible within the wave. In the upper left corner, there is a vertical rectangular frame containing Japanese text.

# **Hazardous chemicals in plastics in marine environments and their potential effects on marine organisms**



**Hideshige Takada, Kosuke Tanaka, Rei Yamashita**  
(Tokyo University of Agriculture and Technology)

**Yutaka Watanuki**  
(Hokkaido University)

# Marine organisms ingest plastics

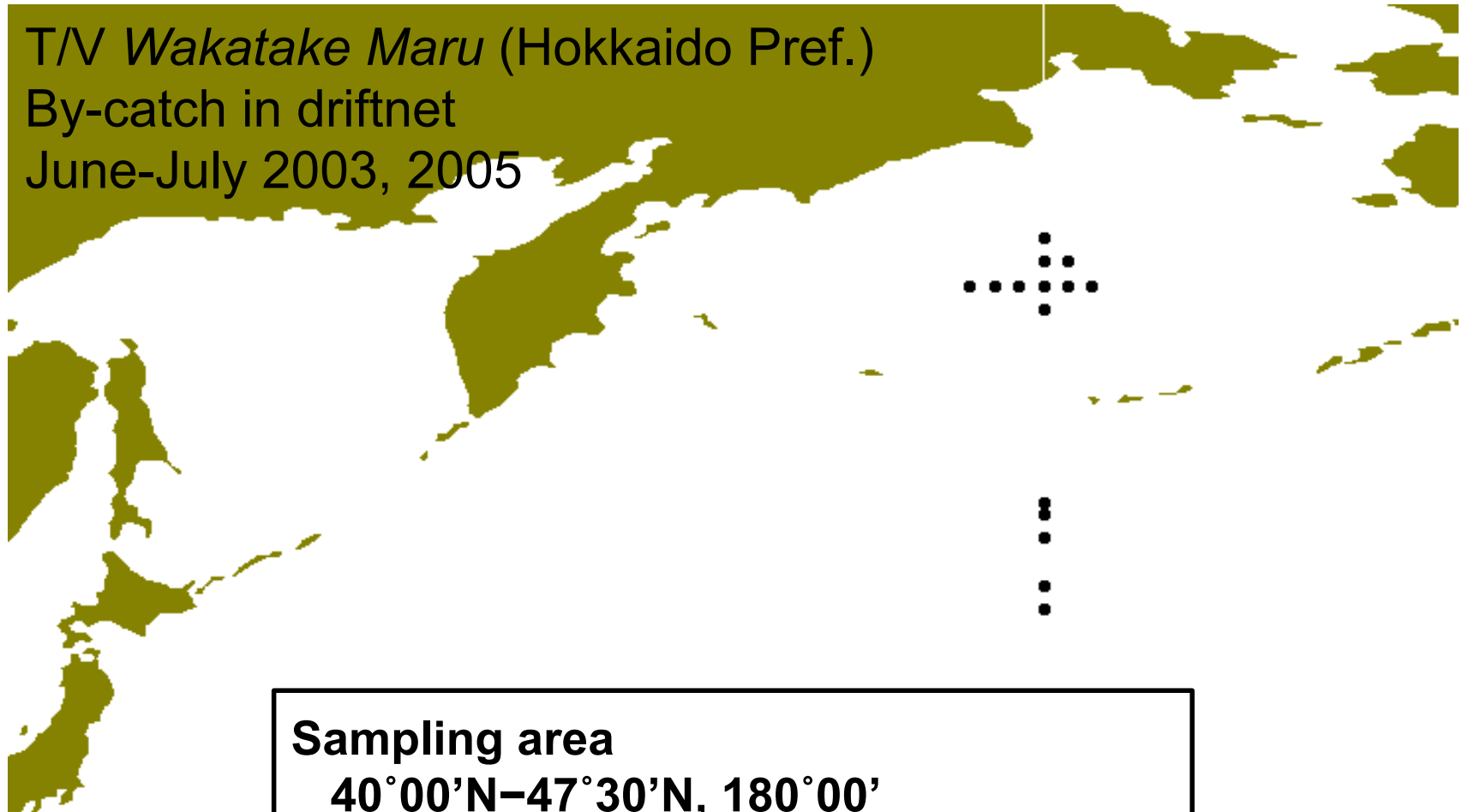


Albatross



# Short-tailed shearwater from Northern pacific

*T/V Wakatake Maru* (Hokkaido Pref.)  
By-catch in driftnet  
June-July 2003, 2005



**Sampling area**

**40°00'N–47°30'N, 180°00'**

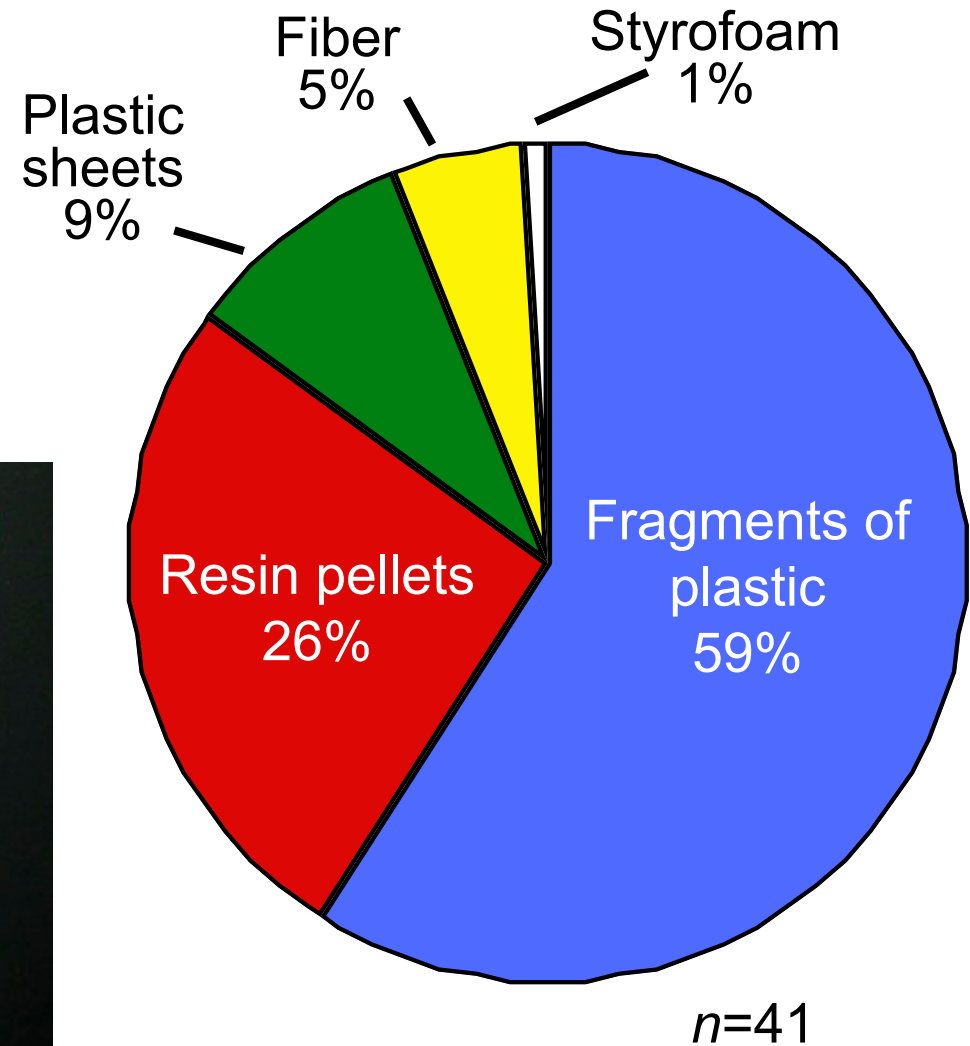
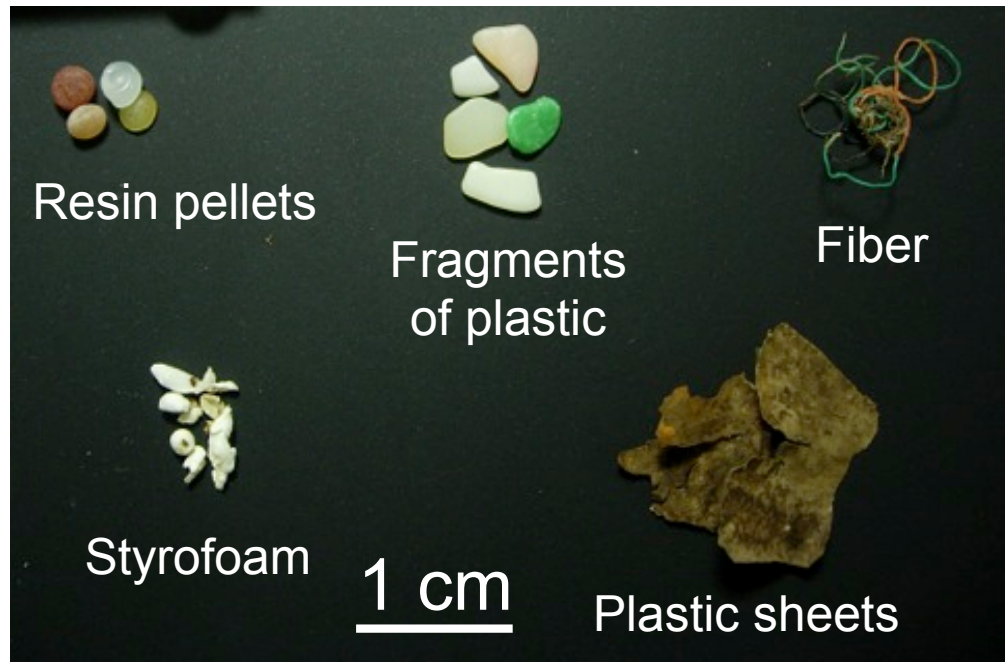
**55°30'N–58°30'N, 178°00' E–178°00' W**



# Plastics found in digestive tracts of the seabirds



**Short-tailed shearwater**  
*Puffinus tenuirostris*



Type and composition of plastics found in the stomachs of short-tailed shearwater.

**Yamashita et al. 2011**

# Plastics detected in digestive tract of short-tailed shearwater



0.1 g – 0.6 g per an individual

# Marine organisms ingest plastics

More than 180 species of animals are known to have ingested plastic debris, including **birds**, **fish**, **turtles** and **marine mammals**.

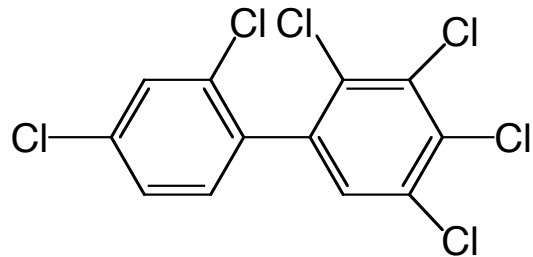
Physical impacts of the ingested plastics have been reported for many species of organisms (Wright et al., 2013).



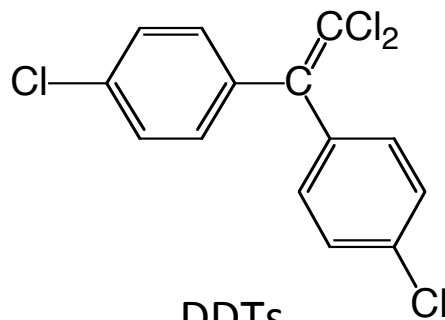
Plastics in Seabird

# Plastics carry two types of chemicals in marine environment

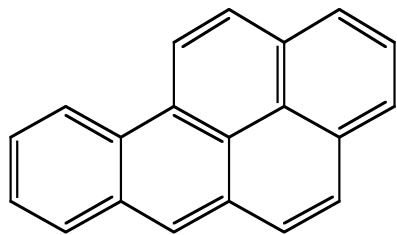
## Sorption from ambient seawater



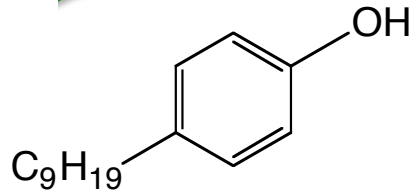
Polychlorinated biphenyl (PCBs)



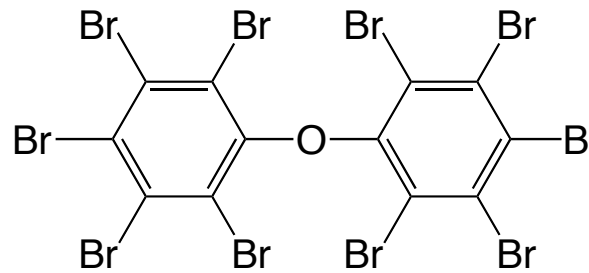
DDTs



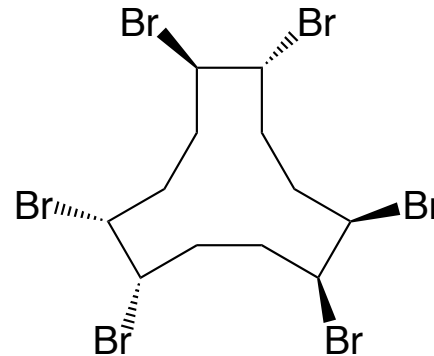
Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs)



Nonylphenol

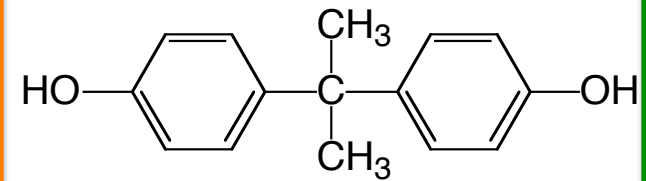


Polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDEs)



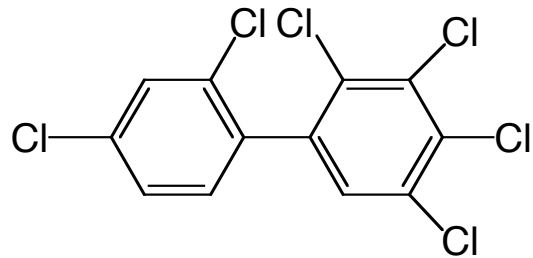
Hexabromocyclododecanes (HBCDs)

## Additive-derived chemicals

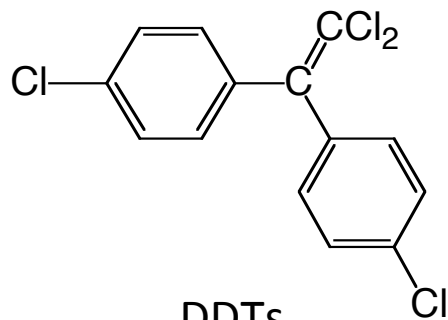


Bisphenol A

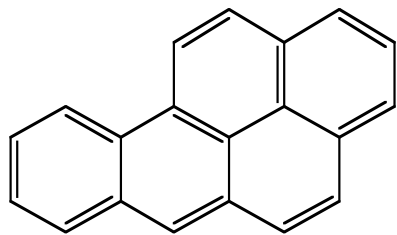
# Plastics carry two types of chemicals in marine environment



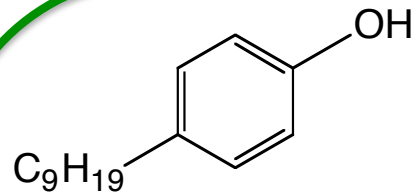
Polychlorinated biphenyl (PCBs)



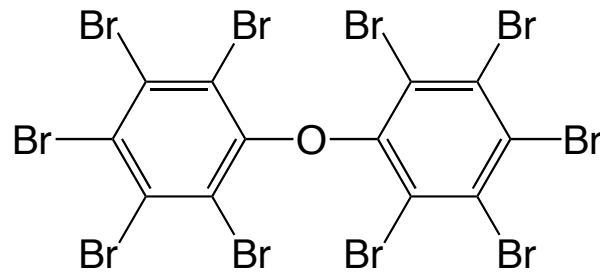
DDTs



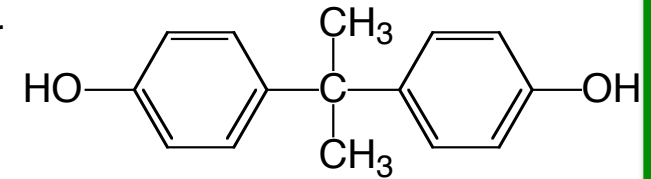
Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs)



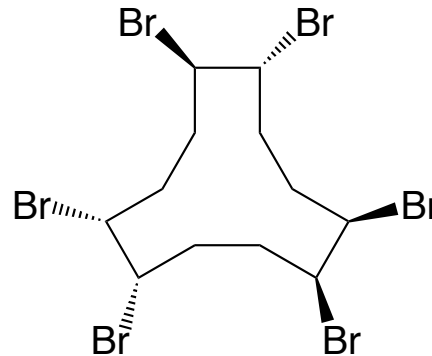
Nonylphenol



Polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDEs)



Bisphenol A

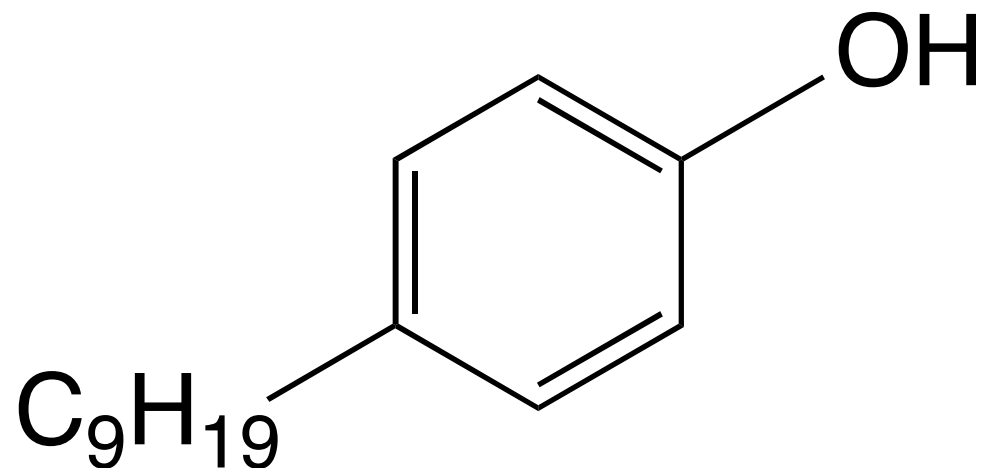


Hexabromocyclododecanes (HBCDs)

## Additive-derived chemicals



# Nonylphenol : Endocrine disrupting chemicals

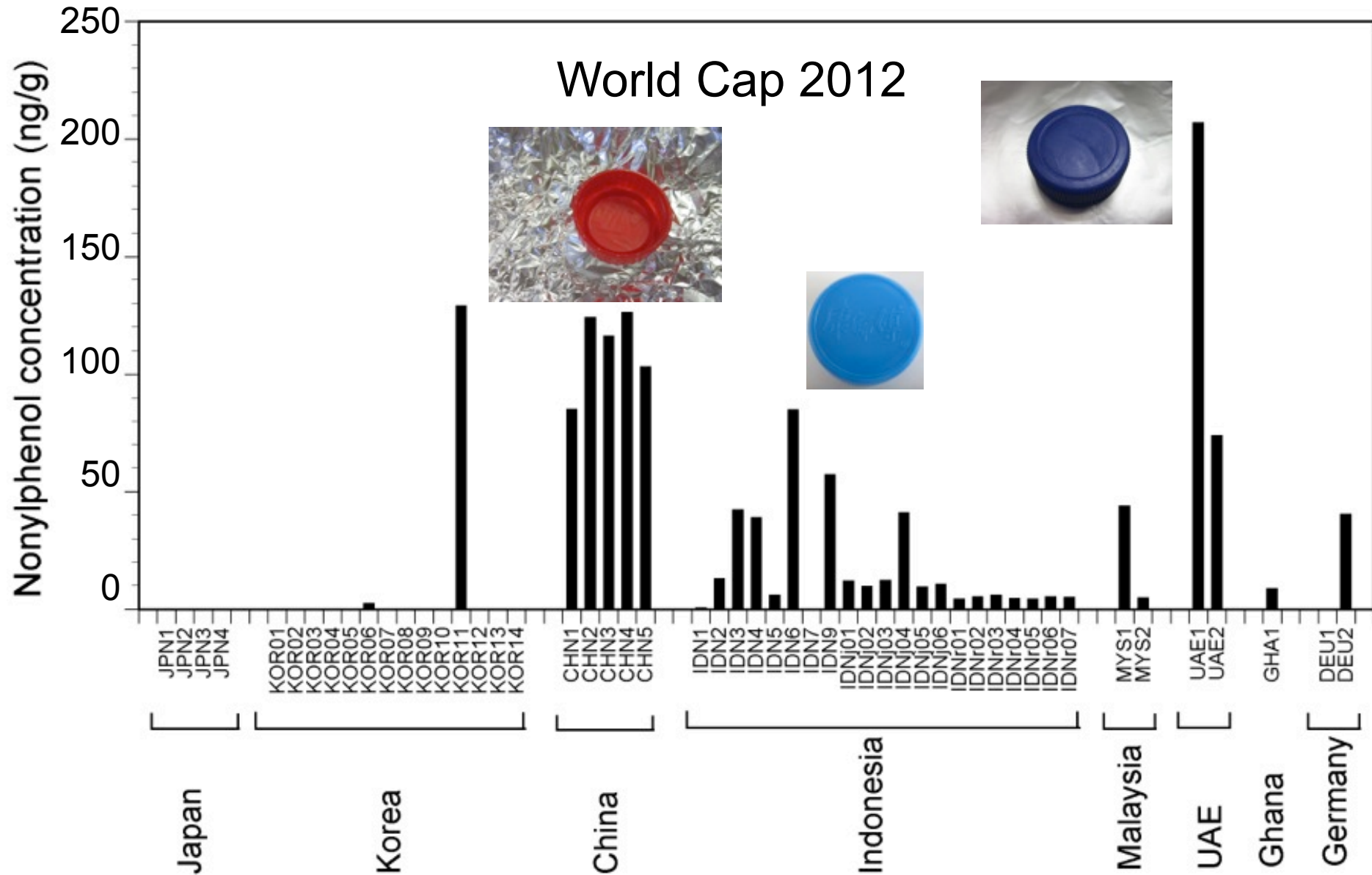


Additives to plastic

Antioxidants  
Antistatic agents

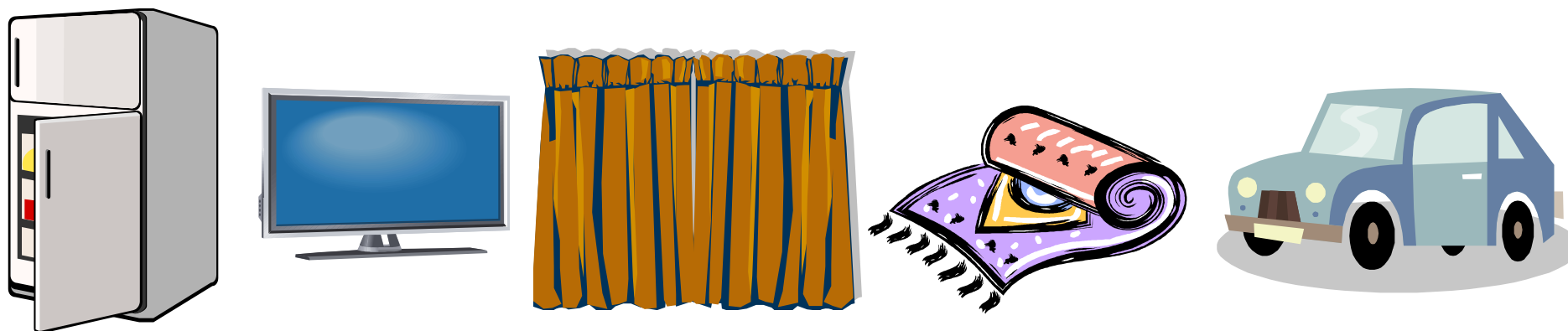
- disorders in the reproductive system
- vaginal clear cell adenocarcinoma
- decreased ability to reproduce

# Endocrine disrupting chemicals released from plastic caps of mineral water bottles



# PBDEs : Flame retardants

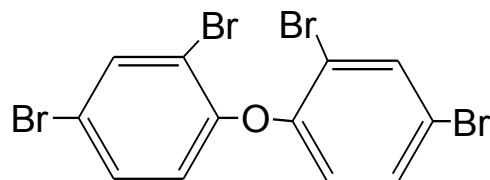
applied in various electric products and fabrics.



3 technical products (mixtures of congeners)

## Penta BDE

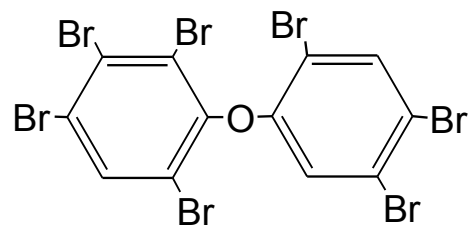
(Br4, Br5)



e.g., BDE47

## Octa BDE

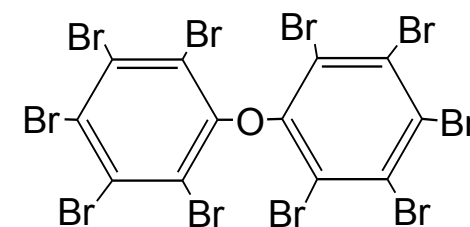
(Br7,8)



e.g., BDE183

## DecaBDE

(Br10)



e.g., BDE209

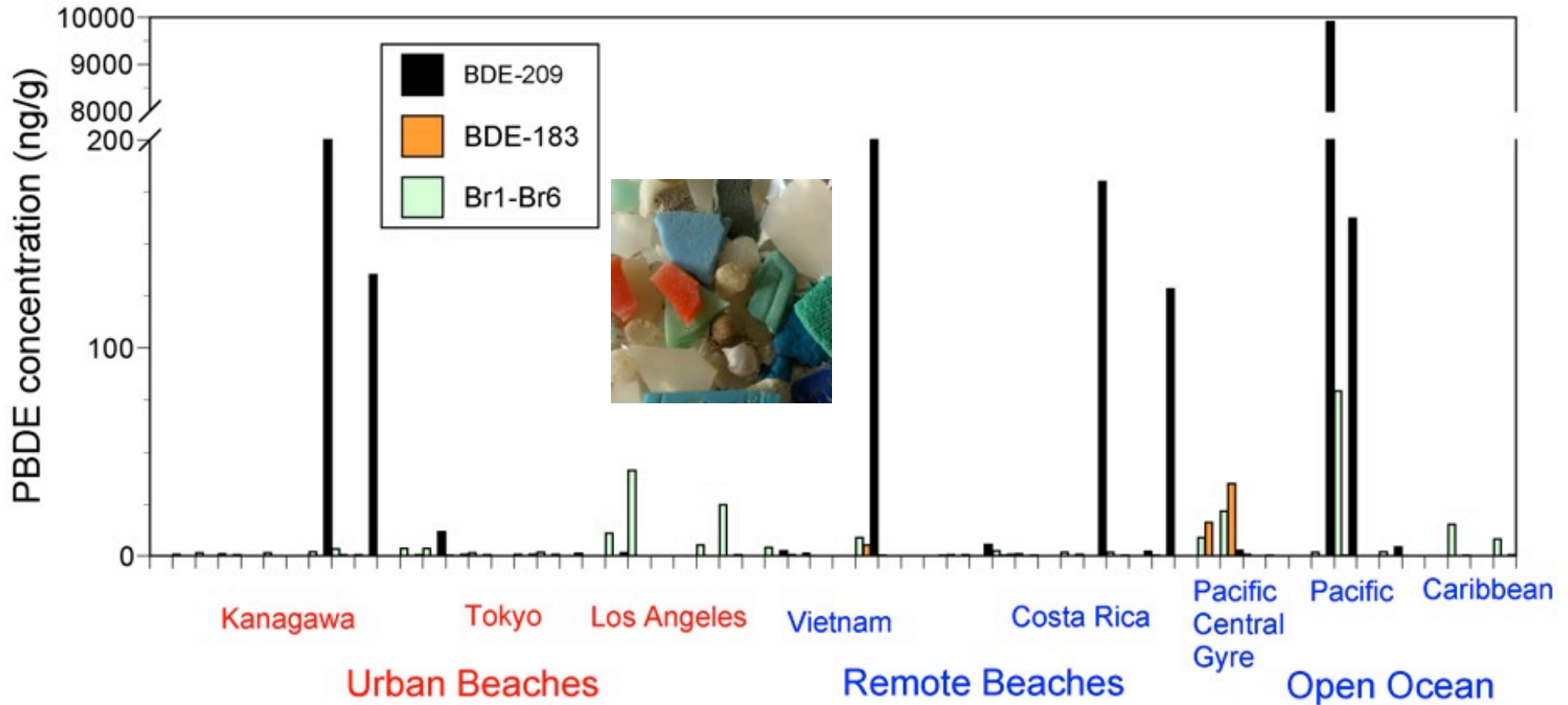
# Sampling locations of user plastic fragments



- Urban beach
- Rural beach
- ◆ Open ocean



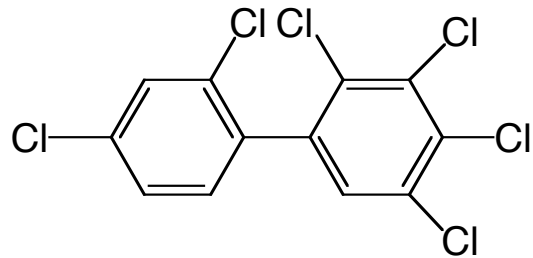
# Distributions of PBDE congeners in marine plastic fragments



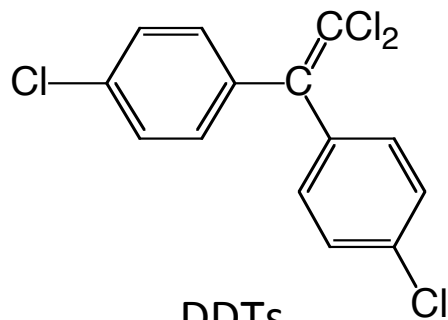
➔ BDE209 and BDE183 were sporadically detected in marine plastics even from open ocean

# Plastics carry two types of chemicals in marine environment

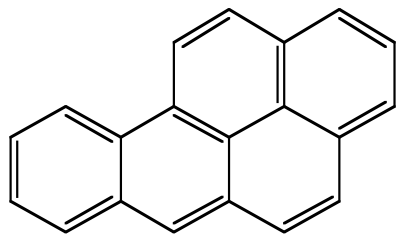
## Sorption from ambient seawater



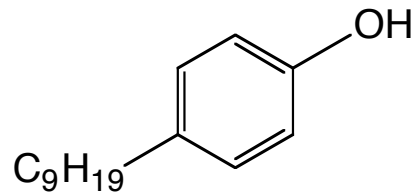
Polychlorinated biphenyl (PCBs)



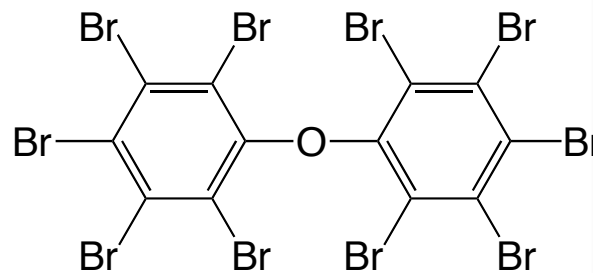
DDTs



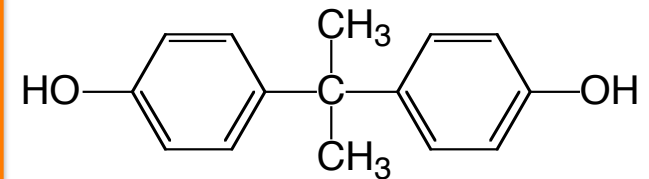
Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs)



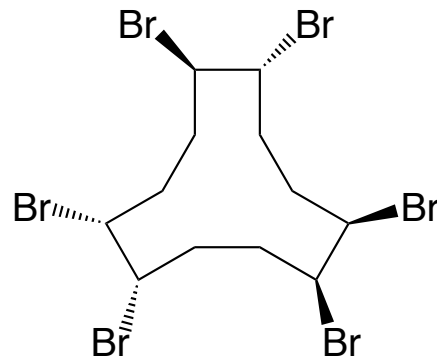
Nonylphenol



Polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDEs)



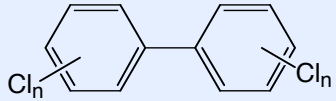
Bisphenol A



Hexabromocyclododecanes (HBCDs)

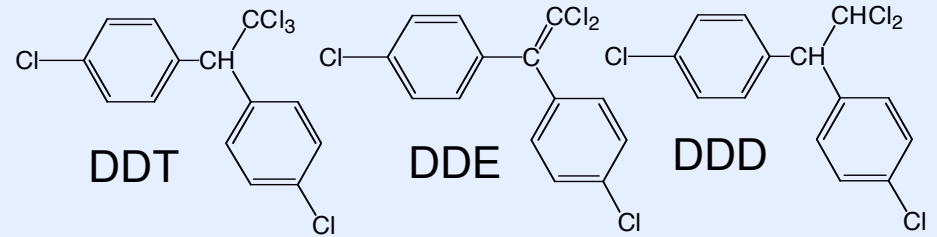
# Persistent organic pollutants (POPs)

## PCBs



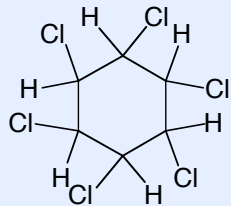
- Industrial products for a variety of uses including dielectric fluid, heat medium, and lubricants.
- Endocrine disrupting chemicals

## DDTs



- DDT and its metabolites such as DDE and DDD.
- DDT was used as insecticides
- Endocrine disrupting chemicals

## HCH



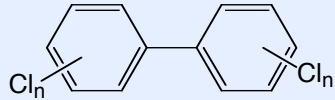
- Insecticide

- ✓ Man-made chemicals
- ✓ Persistent (stable, resistant to degradation)
- ✓ Toxic to human and marine organisms
- ✓ Hydrophobic (lipophilic)
- ✓ Bioaccumulative

Regulated by **Stockholm convention**

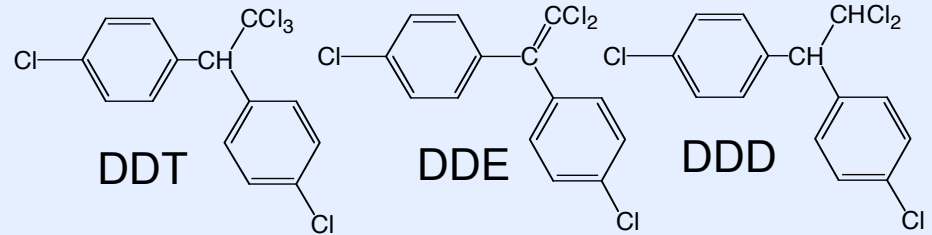
# Pellets accumulate POPs from seawater

## PCBs



- Industrial products for a variety of uses including dielectric fluid, heat medium, and lubricants.
- Endocrine disrupting chemicals

## DDTs

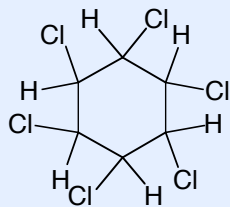


- DDT and its metabolites such as DDE and DDD.
- DDT was used as insecticides
- Endocrine disrupting chemicals

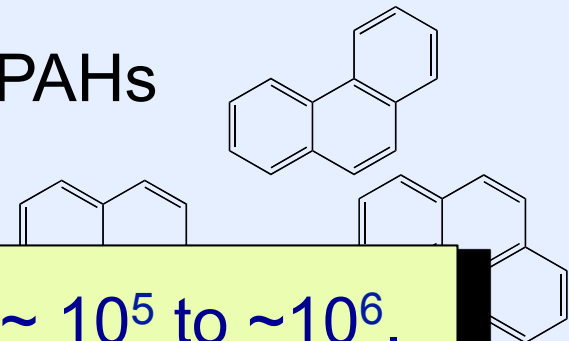
**adsorption from ambient seawater**

Plastics

## HCH



## PAHs

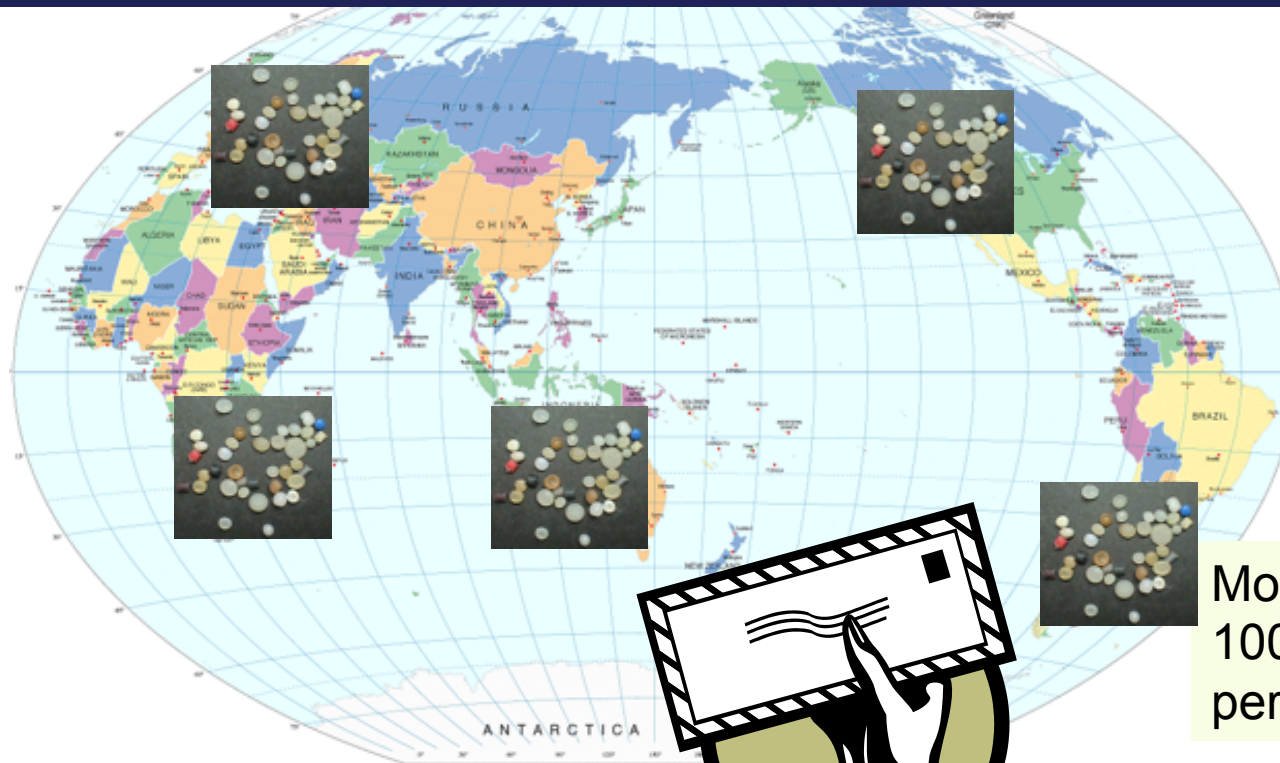


Concentration factor is estimated to be  $\sim 10^5$  to  $\sim 10^6$ .

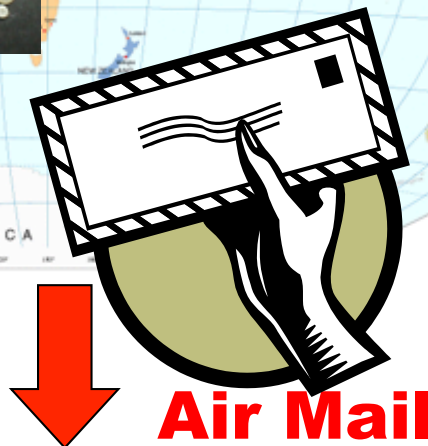


# International Pellet Watch

Global Monitoring of Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)  
Using Beached Plastic Resin Pellets



More than 50 pieces (~  
100 pieces)  
per one location



Laboratory of Organic Geochemistry, Dr. Hideshige Takada,  
Tokyo University of Agriculture and Technology,  
Fuchu, Tokyo 183-8509, Japan

# Plastic resin pellet from various areas in the world





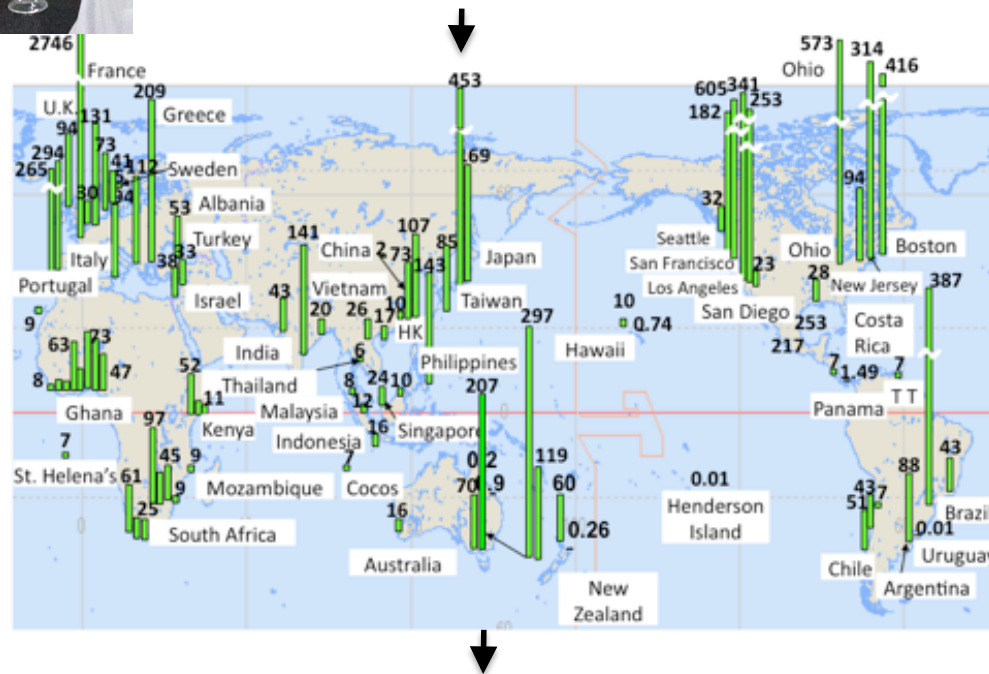
# Analysis for persistent organic pollutants (POPs)



**Chemical Analysis**



Status of Global pollution

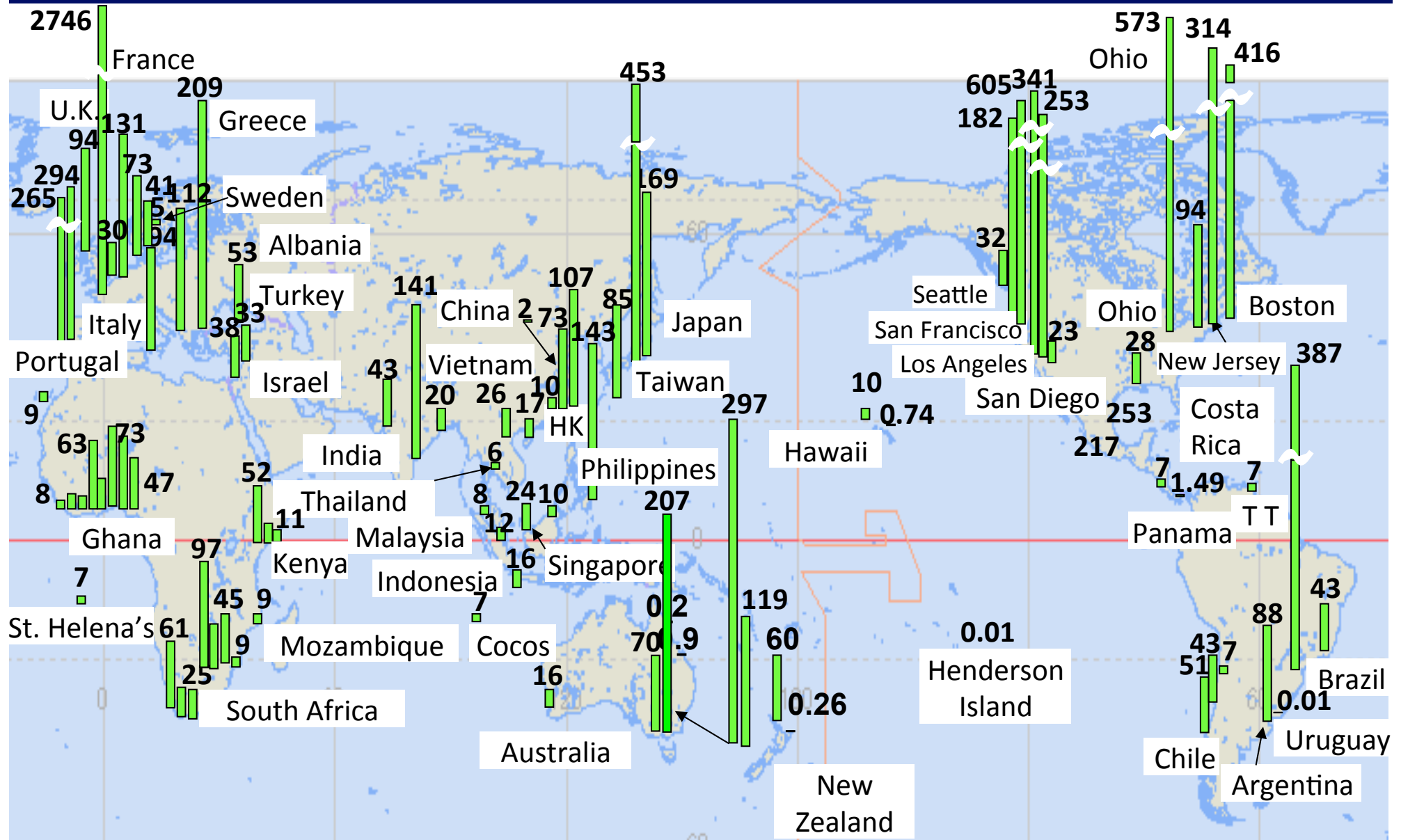


Chemical hazardousness of marine plastics

- Feed the data back to the collaborators via e-mail
- Releasing the results on web <http://www.pelletwatch.org/>

# International Pellet Watch : monitoring of POPs

## Plastics carry hazardous chemicals in marine environments

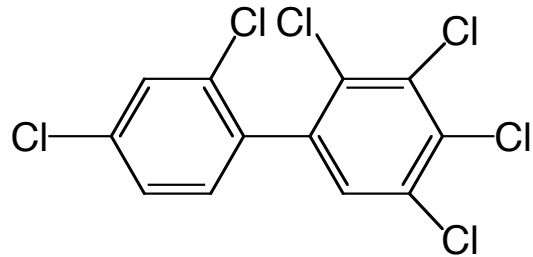


Concentration of PCBs\* in beached plastic resin pellet (ng/g-pellet)

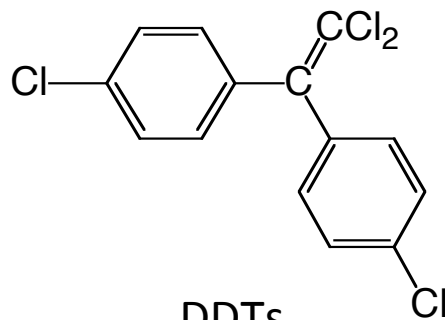


# Plastics carry two types of chemicals in marine environment

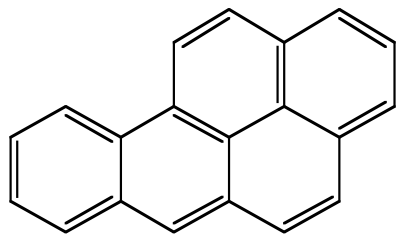
## Sorption from ambient seawater



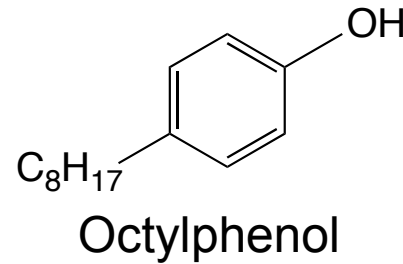
Polychlorinated biphenyl (PCBs)



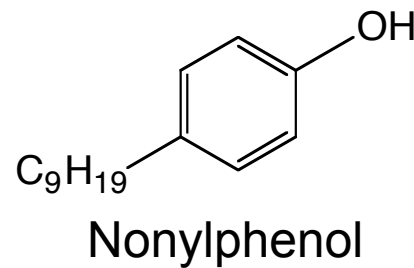
DDTs



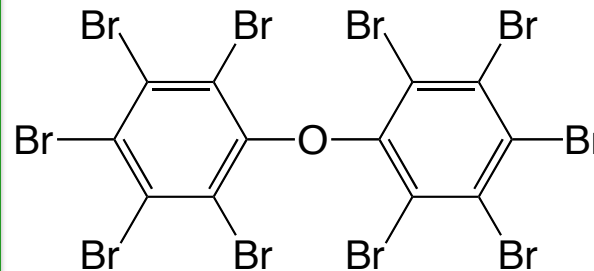
Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs)



Octylphenol

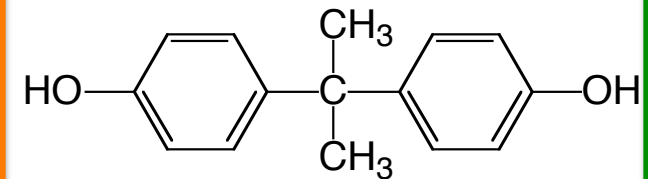


Nonylphenol



Polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDEs)

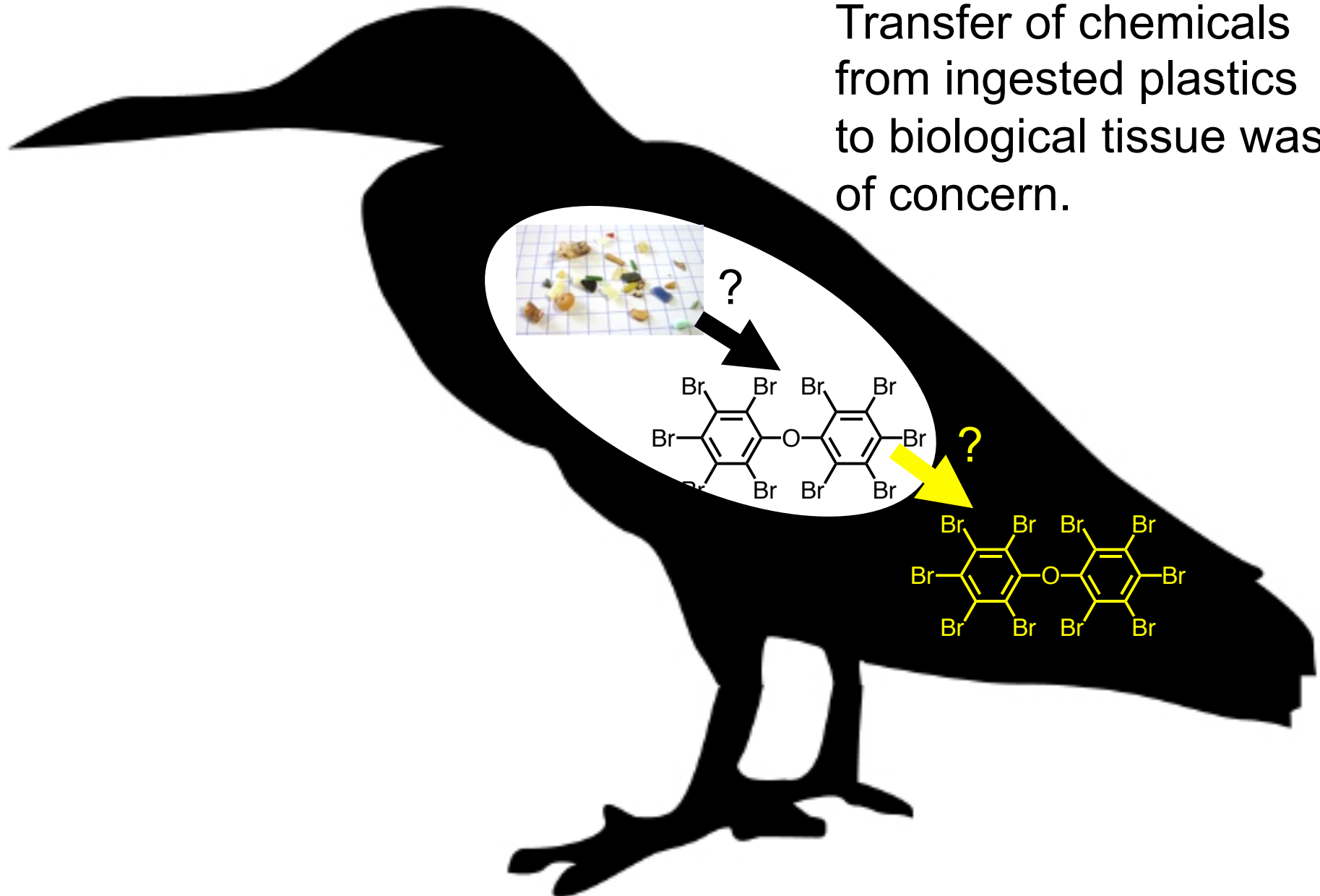
## Additive-derived chemicals



Bisphenol A

# Transfer of chemicals from ingested plastics to biological tissue

Transfer of chemicals from ingested plastics to biological tissue was of concern.





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## Marine Pollution Bulletin

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/marpolbul](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/marpolbul)



### Baseline

*Edited by* Bruce J. Richardson

The objective of BASELINE is to publish short communications on different aspects of pollution of the marine environment. Only those papers which clearly identify the quality of the data will be considered for publication. Contributors to Baseline should refer to 'Baseline—The New Format and Content' (*Mar. Pollut. Bull.* **60**, 1–2).

## Physical and chemical effects of ingested plastic debris on short-tailed shearwaters, *Puffinus tenuirostris*, in the North Pacific Ocean

Rei Yamashita<sup>a,c,\*</sup>, Hideshige Takada<sup>a</sup>, Masa-aki Fukuwaka<sup>b</sup>, Yutaka Watanuki<sup>c</sup>

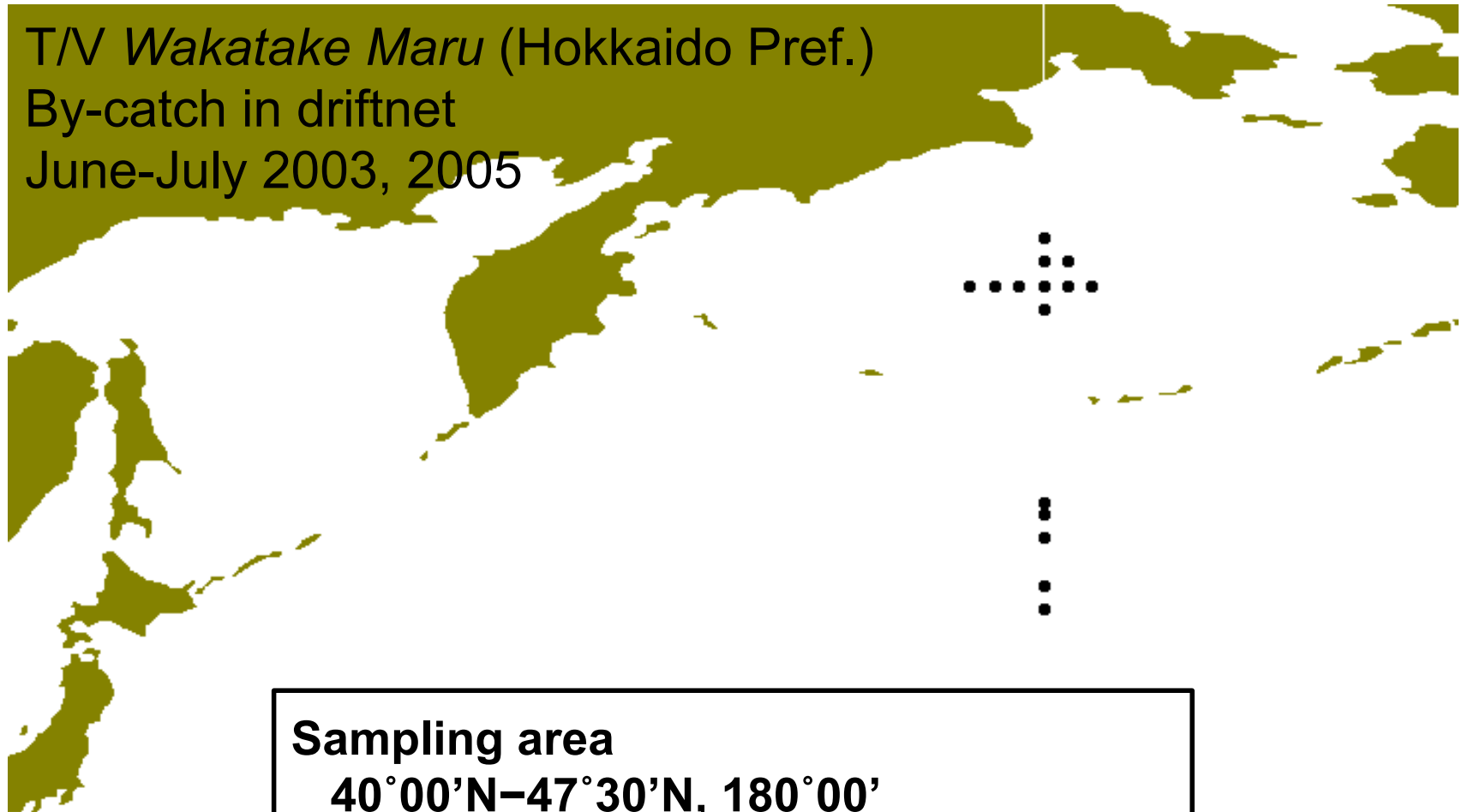
<sup>a</sup> Laboratory of Organic Geochemistry (LOG), Tokyo University of Agriculture and Technology, Fuchu, Tokyo 183-8509, Japan

<sup>b</sup> Hokkaido National Fisheries Research Institute, Fisheries Research Agency (FRA), 116 Katsumakoi, Kushiro, Hokkaido 085-0802, Japan

<sup>c</sup> Graduate School of Fisheries Sciences, Hokkaido University, 3-3-1 Minato, Hakodate 041-8611, Japan

# Short-tailed shearwater from Northern pacific

*TV Wakatake Maru* (Hokkaido Pref.)  
By-catch in driftnet  
June-July 2003, 2005



**Sampling area**

**40°00'N–47°30'N, 180°00'**

**55°30'N–58°30'N, 178°00' E–178°00' W**

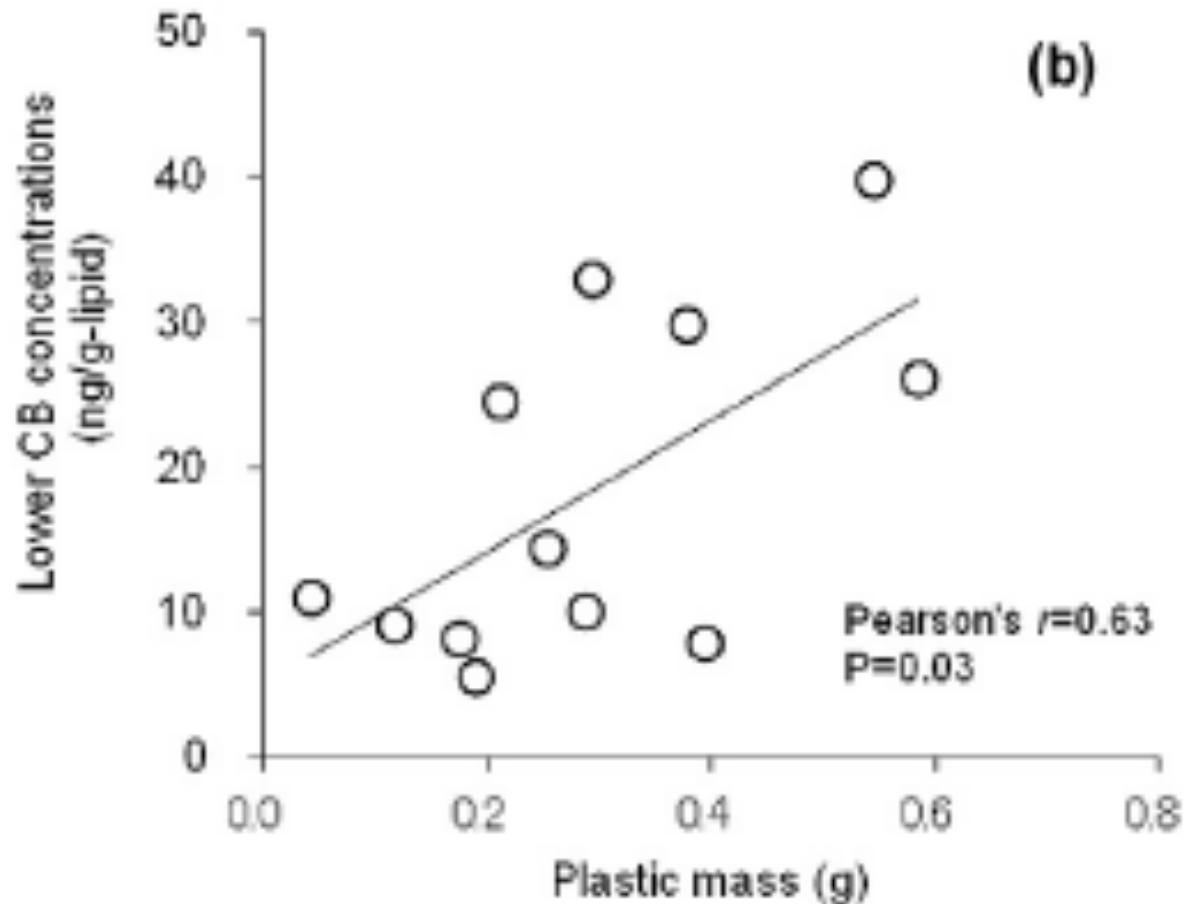


# Abdominal adipose of circus of short-tailed shearwater by-catch



- Amount of plastics found in stomach
- PBDEs concentrations in abdominal adipose

## Increased pollutants concentrations with increasing plastic ingestion

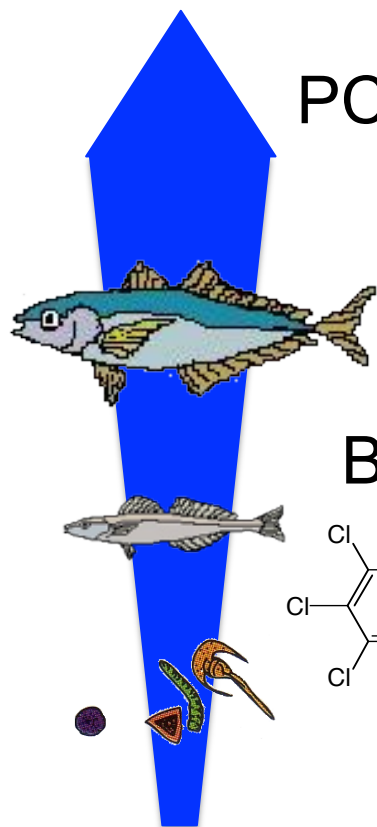


**Fig. 4.** Relationships between ingested plastic mass and concentrations of (a) total PCBs, (b) lower-chlorinated congeners (Cl number 2–4, see Fig. 3), and (c) higher-chlorinated congeners (Cl number 5–9, see Fig. 3) in abdominal adipose tissues of shearwaters that ingested plastics.

# Exposure of contaminants both from plastics and prey

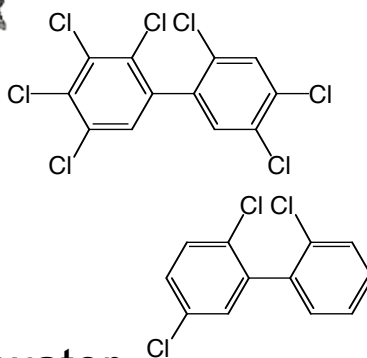


Plastic-derived PCBs



PCBs from prey

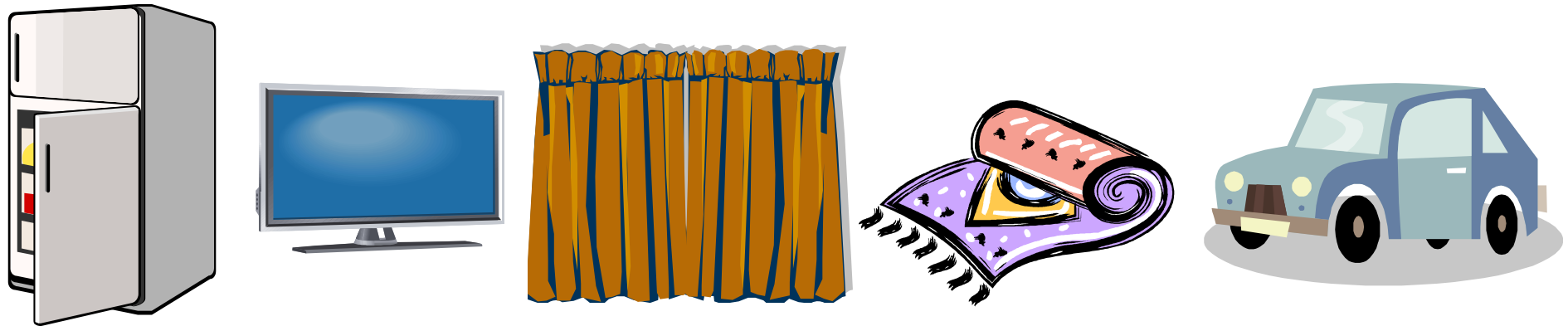
Biomagnification



PCBs in seawater

# PBDEs : Flame retardants

applied in various electric products and fabrics.

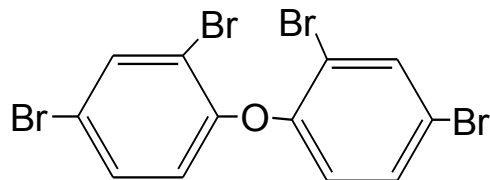


**Lower brominated**

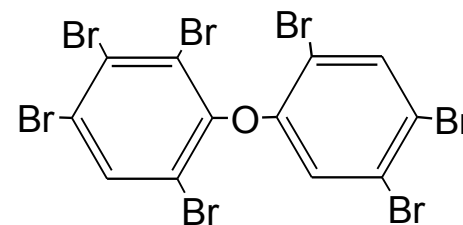
**Higher brominated**

(Br4, Br5)

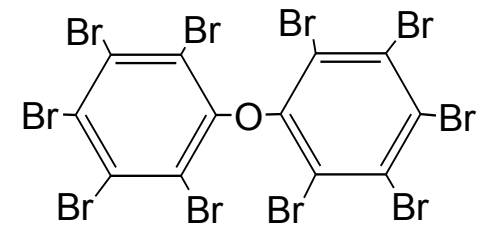
(Br7 - 10)



BDE47



BDE183



BDE209

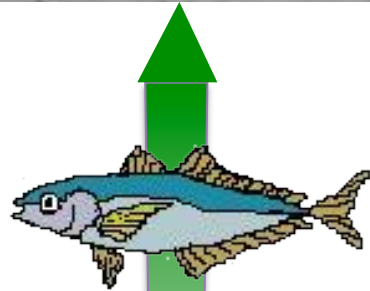


# Plastic-derived Higher brominated congeners could have more impact on exposure of the contaminants to oceanic seabird

Lower brominated congeners ( $\text{Br}_1 - \text{Br}_6$ )



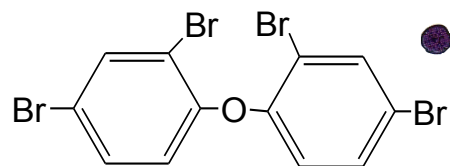
Higher brominated congeners ( $\text{Br}_7 - \text{Br}_{10}$ )



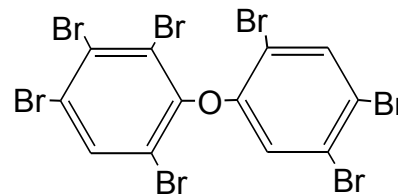
Less biomagnified



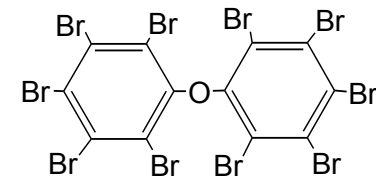
No detection in pelagic fish



BDE47



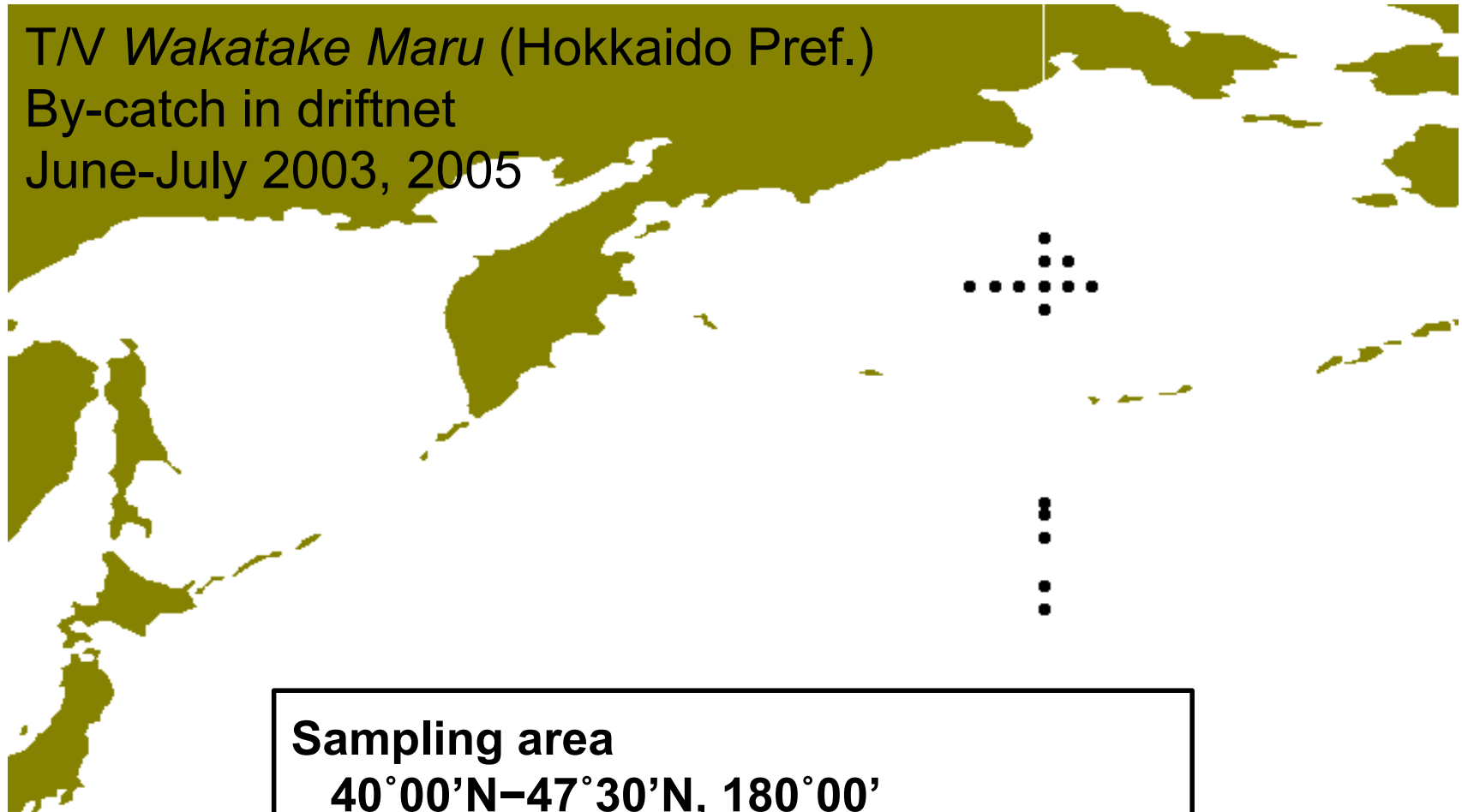
BDE183



BDE209

# Short-tailed shearwater from Northern pacific

*T/V Wakatake Maru* (Hokkaido Pref.)  
By-catch in driftnet  
June-July 2003, 2005



**Sampling area**

**40°00'N–47°30'N, 180°00'**

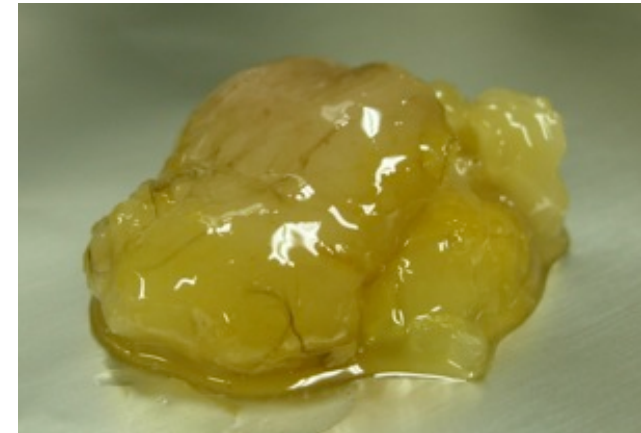
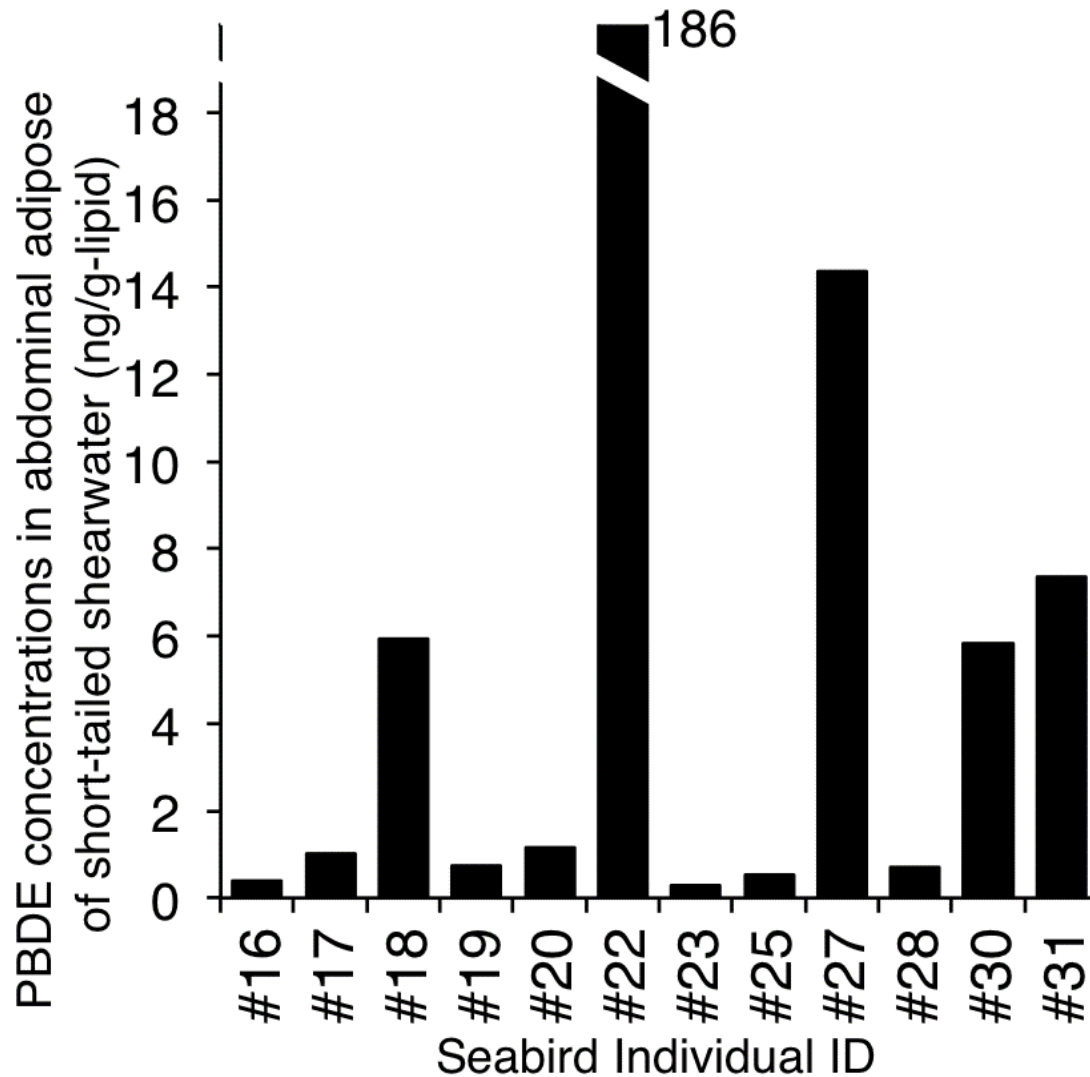
**55°30'N–58°30'N, 178°00' E–178°00' W**

# Abdominal adipose of circus of short-tailed shearwater by-catch



- Amount of plastics found in stomach
- PBDEs concentrations in abdominal adipose

# Higher concentrations of PBDEs were detected sporadically in fatty tissue of the seabird



PBDEs were detected in abdominal adipose of all the individuals.

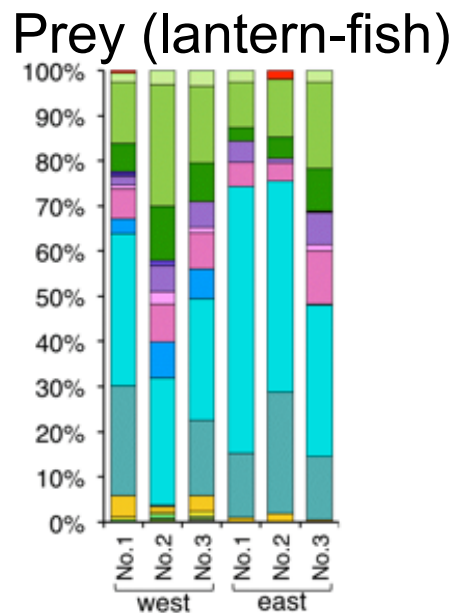
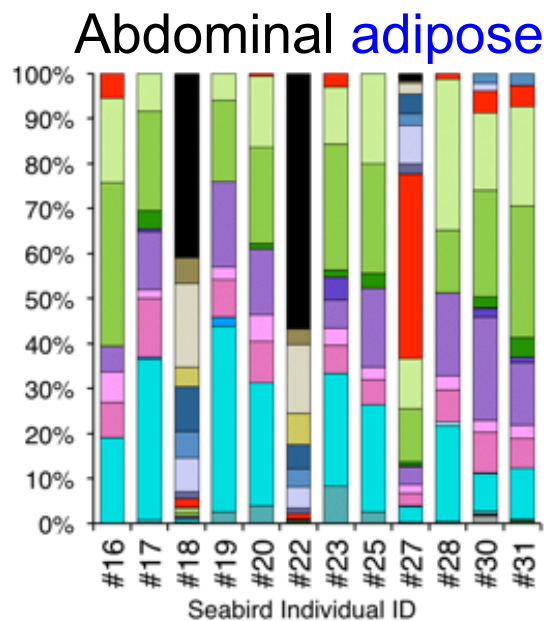
Blank

BDE#47 : 0.0006 ng/g-lipid

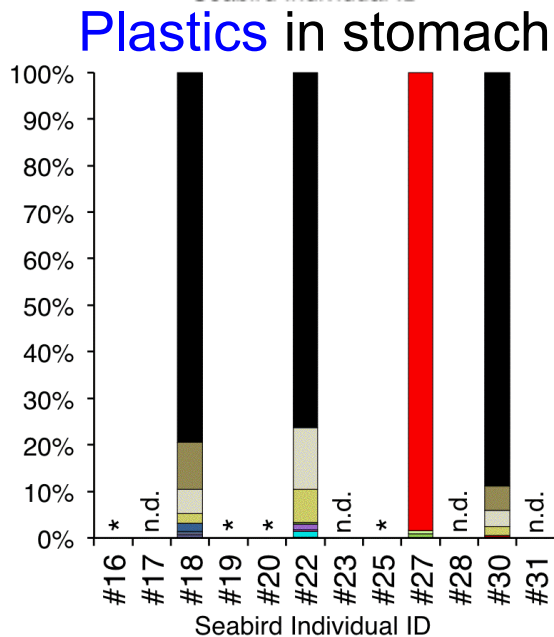
BDE#209 : 0.03 ng/g-lipid



# Composition of BDE congeners in seabird adipose, plastics in the stomachs, and their prey.



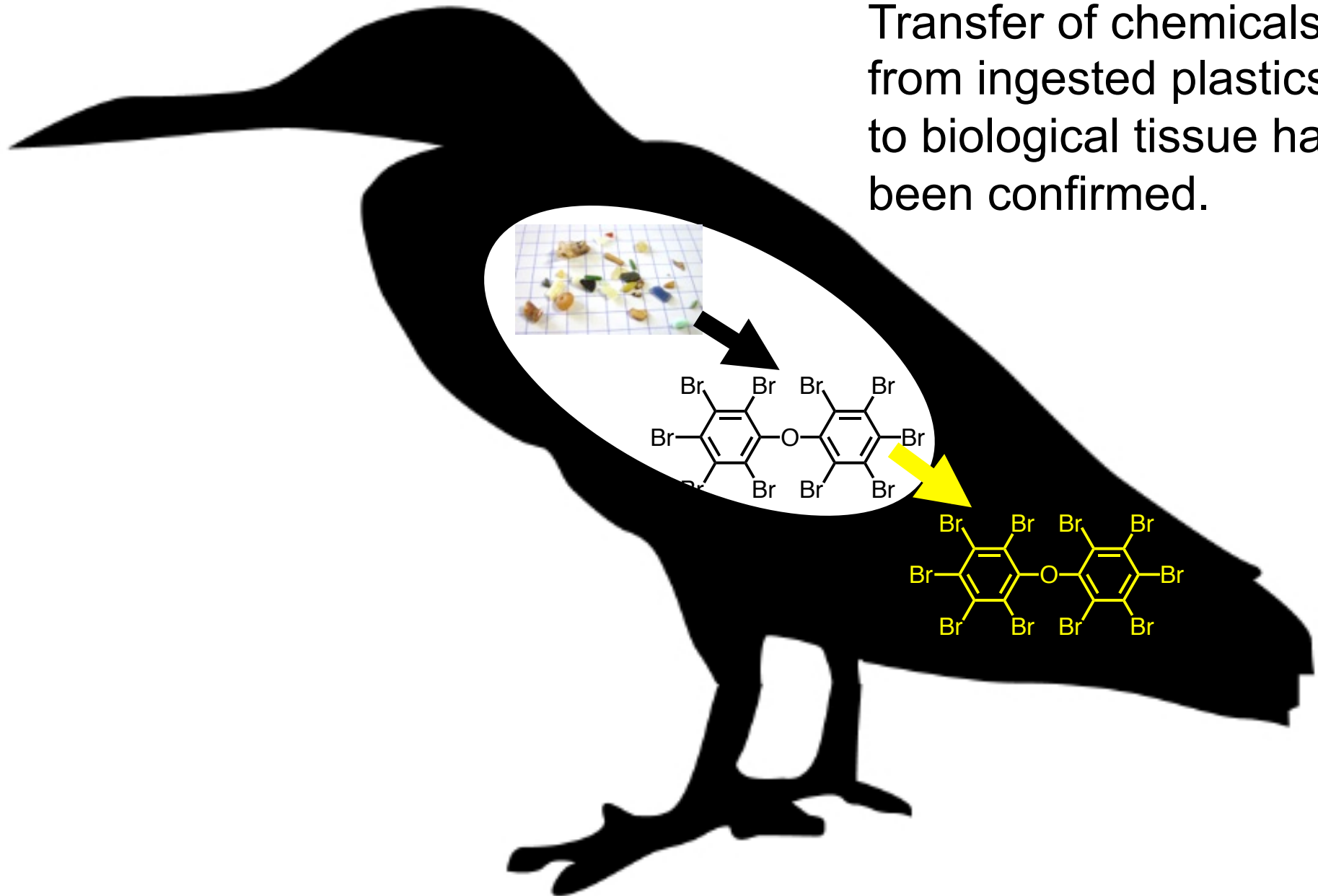
10Br	209	206
9Br	207	208
8Br	196	203
	197	202
7Br	179	188
	190	181
	183	166
6Br	138	153
	154	155
5Br	126	85
	118	116
	99	119
	100	77
4Br	66	47
	71	49
	75	37
3Br	35	33/28
	17/25	32
	30	15
2Br	12/13	8
	11	7
	10	3
1Br	2	1



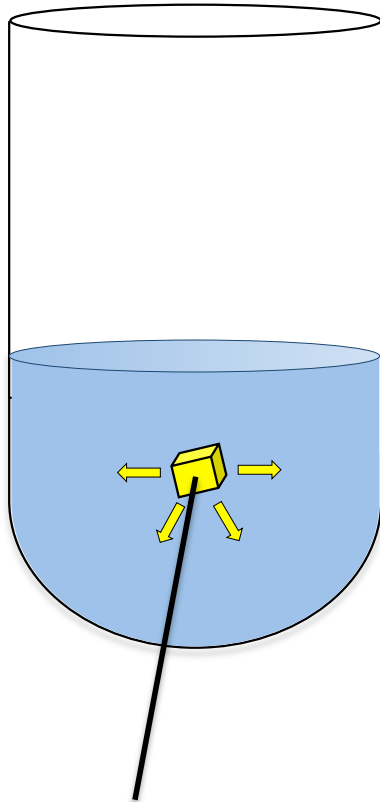
Higher brominated congeners were derived from ingested plastics, whereas lower brominated congeners were derived from natural prey

# Transfer of chemicals from ingested plastics to biological tissue

Transfer of chemicals from ingested plastics to biological tissue has been confirmed.



# Leaching experiment to test bioavailability of additives in plastic



BDE209 was industrially compounded into polyethylene (PE)

Distilled water

Sea water

Pepsin solution 20°C

Pepsin solution 38°C

Fish oil from walleye pollack,

Stomach oil

collected from Streaked Shearwater



# Conclusion and Questions to be addressed

## Conclusions

Transfer of the chemicals from ingested plastics to internal system of the biota was confirmed for a species of seabird.

## Questions

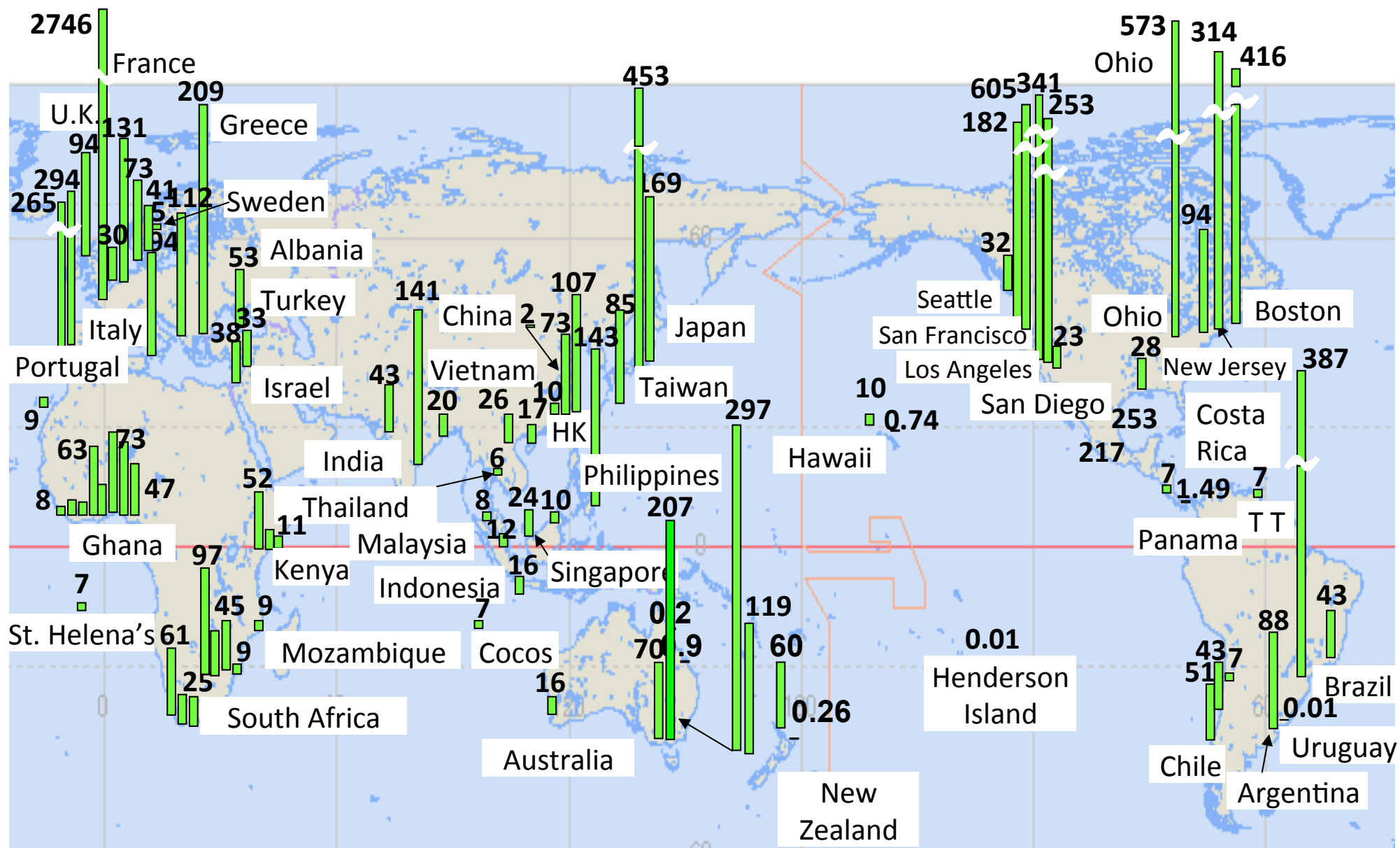
Magnitude of the plastic-associated transfer of chemicals.

The other areas?      The other species?

The other animals?

Biological response (adverse effects on the marine organisms)

# Call for pellets from PICES member countries!



Concentration of PCBs\* in beached plastic resin pellet (ng/g-pellet)